



# NEWS RELEASE

## **PRESS OFFICE**

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## ***SBA ANNOUNCES BRUCE THOMPSON AS REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR***

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today the appointment of Bruce C. Thompson as a regional administrator for the SBA, overseeing Region IX, which includes California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii and Guam.

SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto welcomed Thompson to the agency, saying: “We are very fortunate to have Bruce on our team. His background as a small business owner and his years in the California Legislature will be a great asset.”

Thompson added: “My family and I are looking forward to this new opportunity and challenge. It is my hope that I can play a part in assisting families achieve the American dream through small business ownership.”

The five states of Region IX comprise the largest geographical area among the 10 federal regions in the United States. In Fiscal Year 2001, SBA Region IX led the nation with 8,588 guaranteed loans worth more than \$2.8 billion dollars. The regional office oversees district offices in San Francisco, Sacramento, Fresno, Santa Ana, Los Angeles and San Diego, CA; Las Vegas, NV; Phoenix, AZ; Honolulu, HI; and a branch office in Guam.

Before serving in the California Assembly from 1994 to 2000, Thompson owned and operated a wide variety of successful business ventures. He is experienced in a wide variety of business operations, including service, wholesale, retail and international trade.

During the 2000 Presidential Election, Thompson served as a California State Co-Chair for the Bush/Cheney campaign.

Thompson resides in Fallbrook, Cal., with his wife, Donna, and four of their eight children.

*For more information about all of SBA’s programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U-ASK-SBA, or visit the SBA’s extensive Web site at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).*

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